

HEALTH MATTERS



Communicable Disease & Epidemiology Newsletter - Winter 2022

Disease Matters

Respiratory Syncytial Virus

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is a common respiratory virus that causes cold-like symptoms. The majority of people who get RSV recover quickly within a week or two. Those who are more at-risk are younger children and older adults. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), around 58,000 children younger than five years old are hospitalized due to RSV each year. Children who are considered high risk are:

- Premature infants
- Children under 6 months old
- Children with pre-existing medical conditions

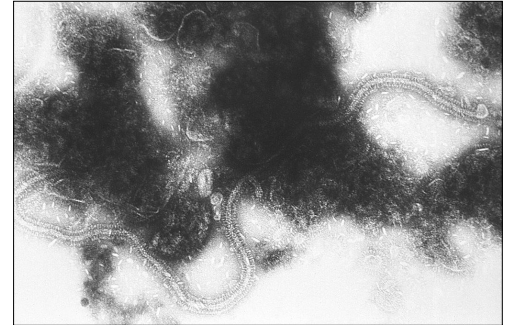
Among adults age 65 and over, CDC estimates that 177,000 are hospitalized and 14,000 die in the U.S each year. Older adults who are considered high risk are:

- Adults over the age of 65
- Those with pre-existing medical conditions such as chronic heart or lung disease
- Those with a weakened immune system

Davis County continues to be impacted by RSV. Between October and December 2021, Davis County saw **1,488** cases of RSV. To help prevent the spread of RSV, the CDC recommends:

- Washing hands frequently
- Avoiding touching one's face
- Avoiding close contact with sick people
- Covering mouth when sneezing/coughing
- Staying home when sick
- Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces

For more information, visit the CDC website: <https://bit.ly/3mBn8pC>



*Electron micrograph of RSV
(Wikipedia)*

Need to Report a Communicable Disease?



**Call Davis County
Health Department at
801-525-5220**



**Or fax the [information](#)
to 801-525-5210**

Seasonal Matters

Communicable Disease Annual Report



Each year, Davis County Health Department provides an annual report on communicable diseases within the community. This report summarizes trends and the burden of disease in Davis County. It reviews the at the overall burden of disease, and breaks down diseases by category including enterics, sexually transmitted, vaccine preventable, vector-borne, invasive, and other diseases.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2019 annual report was combined with 2020. This report highlights significant events that took place in the years 2019 and 2020.

Follow the link here to review the report: <https://bit.ly/3JgdSkF>

Number Matters

Selected Notifiable Diseases, 2021 & 2020

| | 2021* Year-End | 2020 Year-End | % Increase or Decrease Year-to-Date |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Campylobacteriosis | 48 | 46 | 4.4% |
| Chlamydia | 942 | 954 | -1.3% |
| Gonorrhea | 260 | 238 | 9.2% |
| Hepatitis A | 1 | 0 | -- |
| Hepatitis B, acute & chronic | 11 | 19 | -42.1% |
| Hepatitis C, acute & chronic | 127 | 101 | 25.7% |
| Mumps | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Measles | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Meningococcal disease | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Pertussis | 8 | 16 | -50.0% |
| Salmonellosis | 31 | 38 | -18.4% |
| Shiga-toxin producing E. coli | 33 | 17 | 94.1% |
| Shigellosis | 6 | 3 | 100.0% |
| Syphilis, all stages | 37 | 24 | 54.2% |
| Tuberculosis, active disease | 1 | 6 | -83.3% |
| Tuberculosis, latent infection | 71 | 51 | 39.2% |

*2021 data is provisional and subject to change

Staff Matters

Over the past few months, Davis County Health Department has added several new members to its team.

We have welcomed **Nirmal Chahal**, **Amanda James**, and **Lisa Martinez** as Community Health nurses. They will be assisting with disease investigations. Each one has years of experiencing in nursing and we are excited to have them on our team.

We have also welcomed **Matt McCord** and **Brandon Beagles** as our newest epidemiologists. They will be assisting with a wide variety of tasks, analyses, and surveillance of communicable diseases.

Welcome to our new team members!

Calendar Matters

Jan 17: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Jan 18: Utah Legislative session begins

February: American Health Month

Feb 8: Board of Health Meeting

Feb 21: Presidents' Day

Mar 4: Utah Legislative session ends

Mar 13: Daylight Savings Time begins

Mar 17: St Patrick's Day



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